



# Center for Community Health



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# Center for Community Health



*Our Vision is to . . .*

- Provide for a system of regional offices and parish health units;
- Provide for a rich array of preventive health services and screenings to the diverse populations in Louisiana;
- Ensure optimum pre-hospital emergency medical services; and
- Serve as a resource for the state and its communities for injury prevention activities.

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## *Programs and Activities:*



### Nursing Services

Public health nurses assist communities to assess local health needs and work with these communities on the prevention of:

- Injuries,
- Illness,
- Teenage pregnancy,
- Substance abuse, and
- Chronic disease and the promotion of behaviors, which lead toward improved community wellness.

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## *Programs and Activities:*



### Highlighted Facts

#### *Public Health Nurses*

- Provide child health consultant services at day care centers;
- Collaborate with community medical centers to provide immunizations to children through the Shots for Tots Program;
- Examine newborns during home visits and provide education to mothers on care of the newborn;
- Screen for Hepatitis B Virus in the Southeast Asian population, in which the virus is highly endemic, and immunize susceptible contacts; and
- Provide nutritional counseling to mothers in maternal/child health clinics.

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## *Programs and Activities:*



### **Pharmacy Services**

The Pharmacy Services Program provides the medication requirements for the Family Planning, STD, Tuberculosis, Children's Special Health and Hemophilia Programs.

### **Highlighted Facts:**

- Average of 27,000 prescriptions per month
- Coordinates activities related to National Pharmaceutical Stockpile (NPS) for Louisiana

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## *Programs and Activities:*



### Emergency Medical Services

- The mission of EMS is to ensure optimum pre-hospital emergency medical services through effective EMS education and certification of care providers according to accepted national standards.
- EMS' personnel are most often the first health care providers to examine and treat critically ill or injured persons. The quality of care can often make the difference between life or death.

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## *Programs and Activities:*



### *Highlighted Facts*

EMS is responsible for the

- Education,
- Examination, and
- Certification and scope of practice for first responders and emergency medical technicians - Basic, Intermediate and Paramedic.

EMS is additionally responsible for training and certification of all EMS instructors.

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## *Programs and Activities:*



### *Highlighted Facts*

- As of 2001, there are a total of 19,980 currently active EMS personnel in Louisiana;
- 9,052 certifications were processed during 2001; and
- 947 EMS courses were taught in 2000 of which 117 were paramedic refresher courses.

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## *Programs and Activities:*



### **Injury Research and Prevention Program**

Injury Research and Prevention Program's purpose is to highlight the importance of both intentional and unintentional injuries by collecting, analyzing and disseminating information related to injuries. The program is responsible for identifying and describing injury problems in Louisiana.

The Injury Epidemiology Program has the following components:

- Fatal Child Injuries (MCH Child Death Review);
- Motor Vehicle Injury;
- Traumatic Brain and Spinal Cord Injury; and
- Violence Prevention Programs.

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## *Programs and Activities:*



### **Highlighted Facts: From 1995-1997**

- Average number of injury deaths per year in Louisiana was 3,143;
- Unintentional injuries were the leading cause of death for Louisianans 1-34 years old while homicides were the second leading cause of death for residents 10-34 years old;
- Louisiana was among the states with the highest rate of unintentional motor vehicle, suffocation, drowning, fire and burn deaths in the country;
- Louisiana had the second highest homicide death rate, the third highest traumatic brain injury-related death rate, and the third highest firearm-related death rate in the country; and
- Recent telephone data survey estimates that 40,281 women residing in Louisiana were raped or physically assaulted by an intimate partner in the past 12 months.

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## *Programs and Activities:*



### OPH Regions (*Parish Health Unit Services*)

- Public health services statewide are delivered through parish health units. Services are targeted to populations, rather than individuals. The control and prevention of transmission of infectious diseases and the reduction of environmental hazards are paramount.
- Public health works to reduce morbidity and mortality associated with chronic diseases and injuries. It serves as a safety net for the underserved populations who lack access to preventive health care services.

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## *Programs and Activities:*



### **Highlighted Facts**

Specifically in Louisiana, parish health unit staff provide services for:

- WIC,
- TB
- STD treatment and surveillance,
- Family Planning,
- Prenatal care,
- Child health screenings,
- Children's Special Health Services,
- Immunizations,
- Environmental Health Services, such as
  - inspection of restaurants,
  - sewer inspections,
  - safe drinking water monitoring
- Birth/death certificates,
- Refugee screening
- Other preventive health programs.

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*Department of Health and Hospitals*  
*Office of Public Health*



*“Where can I get additional information?”*

Please visit each Center’s website at:

[http: www.oph.dhh.state.la.us](http://www.oph.dhh.state.la.us)

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